

Michaelmas Term 2018: Roundup

Michaelmas Term is the longest term in the university calendar, but it still amazes me how much St Mary's College students manage to pack into a mere 11 weeks. From balls and live lounges, to Welfare at Mary's campaigns and sporting achievements, it seems incredible that there is enough time for the students of Mary's to achieve what they do. For some this was your first taste of the Durham experience at Mary's, and for others it was a case of slipping back into routine and enjoying it all once again. No matter if you are a Mary's first year or postgraduate, this term has been intense and busy, so I ask you all to sit back, relax and read the roundup of this incredible term!

By Journalist President: Susie Bradley

Arts

By Arts Editor: Isabel Carmichael-Davis

This term at St Mary's has been full of entertainment and displays of artistic talent. With two live lounges, a Christmas 'Wizard of Duz' panto and a carol service at St Oswald's Church, first term successfully showcased what St Mary's has to offer. The cabaret night and live lounges allowed students (and indeed Simon Hackett on the 11th of December) to display their various talents, including some breath-taking singing and musical performances. Mary's Dance and Basement Jazz also made an appearance at the Nutcracker Winter Ball and proved very popular with their upbeat and Christmas-themed numbers. Basement Jazz were excellent and provided a professional and varied set, the smooth vocals being backed up by an impressively large band with a range of instruments.

The St Mary's chapel choir performed at St Oswald's Church on the 7th of December, leading an enjoyable and festive carol service. The mince pies and mulled wine served in college made a welcome start to the event. As a long-standing Mary's tradition, the church was full, and everyone got involved with the singing, serving as a good end to the term.

Sports

By Sports Editor: Rob Birch

Mary's sport has well and truly produced this term. We've had the highs of the rugby team's superb performance against castle last week, whilst at the same time the lacrosse team destroyed Trevs 14-0 to get its record victory on the adjacent crumb. We've had the lows of Paddy Hickey's chat at floodlit football. There's just been too many truly spectacular sporting moments for me to mention all of them in the words I have been allocated for this. But I will try.

Both our hockey teams are at least mid-table in the Prem. The D team netball are top of the league, and the other teams are playing solidly. Mary's traditional sport of table tennis is making the most of the last year of the legend that is Simon Hackett and are competing for the title. Futsal finally got its first win, and women's football ruined Hatfield 7-1. Squash, badminton and basketball are all playing pretty well too (Joe Hurman does DU if you didn't know so he should help the men's team get a few more points).

For a small college, we are well and truly punching above our weight. We are currently in 8th place in the college sport table (whatever that means, but it sounds pretty good to me). I hope this spell of sporting achievement can continue over the next term. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.

Events

By Politics and Lifestyle Editor: Katrina Scotford

Well done on making it to the end of first term Marians! This term has been filled with an array of different campaigns and ratifications amongst the college.

WAM has implemented a Mental Health Wellness campaign over the last month that has been quite successful; you may have noticed students sitting outside the dining hall with a box of suggestions for tips to de-stress. All of those tips have now been posted on the WAM bulletin board outing the dining hall. In November, WAM also held a 'Movember' month in the aid of men's health that many Marian men participated in thanks to our lovely WAM officer Apostolos Kokoris.

In other news, Helen Paton has successfully ratified a new Pub Quiz Society! This society will aim to work in association with other societies within Mary's, including DUCK, Commcomm, and the environment society. It would be amazing to see as many of you as we could next term when the pub quizzes kick off. We are aiming at having a quiz every two weeks and the wonderful exec is working hard at creating some very enticing prizes. (Hint: think bigger than free toasties!).

A Table Football Society created by Will Banks and Tom Downey passed, and in a short period of time they bought and assembled a brand new table for all you table football fanatics in the Fergusson JCR, so go ahead and partake in what could be the most chill society in Mary's.

In elections, congratulations are in order to James Lin on becoming Assistant Treasurer, Hanna Banks and Hetty Rudman on their positions for Year Abroad representatives, and, in a very competitive race, Joe Castledine for winning the Post-Offer Visit Day Head Rep seat.

Have a brilliant winter break everybody- you've earned it, and see you next year!